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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-27. (Cancelled).

28. (previously presented) An antisense oligonucleotide 20 to 50 nucleobases in length targeted to a nucleic acid molecule encoding human interleukin 8 (SEQ ID NO:3), wherein said compound specifically hybridizes with a region within nucleotides 391 through 1639 of said nucleic acid molecule encoding human interleukin 8 and inhibits the expression of human interleukin 8, wherein the antisense oligonucleotide has a sequence comprising SEQ ID NO: 58.

29. (previously presented) The antisense oligonucleotide of claim 28 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified internucleoside linkage.

30. (previously presented) The antisense oligonucleotide of claim 29 wherein the modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

31. (previously presented) The antisense oligonucleotide of claim 28 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified sugar moiety.

32. (previously presented) The antisense oligonucleotide of claim 31 wherein the modified sugar moiety is a 2'-O-methoxyethyl sugar moiety.

33. (previously presented) The antisense oligonucleotide of claim 28 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified nucleobase.

34. (previously presented) The antisense oligonucleotide of claim 33, wherein the modified nucleobase is a 5-methylcytosine.

35. (previously presented) The antisense oligonucleotide of claim 28 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide is a chimeric oligonucleotide.

36. (previously presented) A composition comprising the antisense oligonucleotide of claim 28 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

37. (previously presented) The composition of claim 36 further comprising a colloidal dispersion system.

38. (previously presented) A method of inhibiting the expression of interleukin 8 in cells in cell culture comprising contacting said cells with the antisense oligonucleotide of claim 28 so that expression of interleukin 8 is inhibited.